



Enclosure 2b
May 29, 2019

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 26, 2019**

RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Rhode Island Board of Education met in a joint meeting of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in the Paff Auditorium, URI Providence Campus, Providence, Rhode Island.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cottam welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Barbara Cottam, Amy Beretta, *Christopher Bove, Colleen Callahan, Karen Davis, Dennis Duffy, **Gara Field, Jo Eva Gaines, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, Marianne Monte, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams

[*Ex-officio, non-voting member]
[Arrived at 5:35 p.m.]

Absent: Timothy DelGiudice
Stefan Pryor - Ex-officio, non-voting member
Mike Grey - Ex-officio, non-voting member

Chair Cottam noted for the record that there was a quorum present for the Board of Education.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Thomas Izzo and seconded by Jeffery Williams, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Board of Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of March 26, 2019

Vote: 13 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Barbara Cottam, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Karen Davis, Dennis Duffy, Jo Eva Gaines, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, Marianne Monte, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

[Member Davis arrived after the acceptance of the agenda]

3. OPEN FORUM

Chair Cottam noted for the record that no one had signed up to speak.

4. CHAIRMAN REMARKS

Board Chair Cottam welcomed everyone to the joint meeting of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education and the full Board of Education for the purpose of providing advice and consent on the appointment of Ms. Angélica Infante-Green to serve as the next R.I. Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Chair Cottam noted for the record that in accordance with R.I.G.L. §16-60-60, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education, with the advice and consent of the R.I. Board of Education, shall appoint the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and that the Council is the employer of the Commissioner. As such, both the vote to appoint the position and entering into an employment agreement with her are the purview of the Council, not the full Board. However, as Board Chair, she felt that it was important that the full Board be present to hear the discussion between Ms. Infante-Green and the Council.

5. COMMISSIONER REMARKS

Commissioner Wagner began by expressing how thrilled he is with the nomination of Angélica Infante-Green as the next RI Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. He described Angélica as a strong, smart, and effective leader with a track record of moving outcomes and advancing equity for all kids. He reiterated his stance that leaders change, but the work continues and that he is very confident that Angélica will not only take the work that has been done to date, but will bring her own voice and perspective to that work and will extend it and make it even better.

6. DISCUSSION ITEM - Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

Please refer to the meeting minutes of the Council part of the meeting.

7. ACTION ITEMS – Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

Please refer to the meeting minutes of the Council part of the meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT – Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

9. DISCUSSION ITEM – Rhode Island Board of Education

- a. Full Board discussion with and regarding the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Appointee, Angélica Infante-Green, for the purpose of providing advice and consent.

Board Members congratulated Ms. Infante-Green, expressed that today is a great moment for the State of Rhode Island and how impressed they are with her approach on education. They emphasized the need for change as the data is tragic across the board; underscored the fact that there will be many challenging days ahead; and advised her to structure her team with individuals who have experience in the classroom and not bureaucrats. Board Members also commended Ms. Infante-Green for her goal in getting all students to strive for excellence and not just proficiency. They also asked Ms. Infante-Green to share her views on the need to make schools more community-like, the importance of working together as a state to ensure that nutrition problems, housing, and healthcare issues are addressed, and her vision for the social-emotional as well as academic wellness of students, with an expectation that the current outcomes will change.

Ms. Infante-Green responded that she is in total agreement with the community school aspect and reiterated that as a parent, it is important to her. She noted that in five years she envisions learning environments where students are being pushed and challenged, while being respected by how they learn, and proud of their school. She emphasized that has a parent of a child who is differently able, she looks at things very differently and is a big proponent of having quality options and opportunities for students, and setting them up for success as early as Pre-K.

10. ACTION ITEM – Rhode Island Board of Education

- a. **Advice and consent to the appointment of as Commissioner of Angélica Infante-Green as Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, as recommended by the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education**

On a motion duly made by Jeffery Williams and seconded by Gara Field, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Board of Education gives its consent regarding the appointment of Angélica Infante-Green as Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, as recommended by the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education.

Vote: 14 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Barbara Cottam, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Karen Davis, Dennis Duffy, Gara Field, Jo Eva Gaines, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, Marianne Monte, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

7. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made by Jeffery Williams and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

VOTED: That the Rhode Island Board of Education adjourns.

Vote: 14 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Barbara Cottam, Amy Beretta, Colleen Callahan, Karen Davis, Dennis Duffy, Gara Field, Jo Eva Gaines, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Marta Martinez, Daniel McConaghy, Marianne Monte, Lawrence Purtill, and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

The Rhode Island Board of Education meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.